

The Times-Dispatch

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1908.

Campaign Contributions

The Times-Dispatch will receive, acknowledge and forward to the Treasurer of the National Democratic Campaign Committee all contributions for this purpose.

THE COST OF CONSUMPTION.

Professor Irving Fisher, of Yale University, who discussed the economic aspects of tuberculosis before the International Congress earlier in the week, brought in a terrible indictment. In his estimate, 5,000,000 people now live in the United States are doomed to death by consumption, unless science offers them relief. He places the number of consumptive deaths in this country at 128,000 a year. Other authorities have fixed it as high as 150,000. Professor Fisher generalizes thus:

"This is equal to the deaths from typhoid fever, scarlet fever, diphtheria, cholera, and cancer all together. Then, again, it generally takes three years to die, during which time the poor victim can earn little or nothing. Finally the scourge picks out its victims when they are young men and young women, at the very time they are beginning to earn money."

The professor's contention that tuberculosis costs this country not less than \$2,000,000,000 a year does not appear exaggerated. It places the cost in suffering and sorrow in less easily appraised.

Hopeful as the newer knowledge and better understanding have made those who are leading the fight against this plague, the grounds for present pessimism are not to be concealed. Progress so far made has been to a considerable extent constructive and indicative of what can be accomplished, and the reaction from the profound hopelessness of a generation ago may have carried enthusiasm too far. No one, at any rate, denies the difficulty of the problem to which the eminent physicians of the enlightened world have now addressed themselves. It is discouraging and somewhat surprising to read that a scientifically reduced death-rate from tuberculosis has yet to be effected anywhere. In the United States a rate of 153 per 100,000 of population in 1930 does not compare reassuringly with a rate of 174 in 1901 and 168 in 1902. Sweden reports to the congress a largely reduced death-rate in other directions, but an "almost stationary" mortality from consumption, and her experience is duplicated everywhere.

But the propaganda is as yet in its infancy, and doubtless statistical improvement is to be expected in the generation, rather than in the year. The demonstration that consumption is susceptible of cure, as well as prevention, cannot be gainsaid. The full measure of what bacteriology may do to further the campaign is not yet plain, at least to the layman; but the enormous aid of sanitation, of sun and air, is becoming more and more generally understood. Here the individual, and more particularly the city, can join hands with the laboratory expert.

Clean streets, model tenements, sanitary workshops and factories, plentiful parks and playgrounds—these are the ways in which municipalities can help destroy the destroyer. There is more than humanitarianism in such a program. It pays. The country's economic loss of a billion dollars a year through consumption is widely distributed, and the city of Richmond bears her share of it.

Reading the front-page headlines from day to day, the average man finds it hard to remember that there are seven candidates in this presidential race, counting Mr. Taft.

THAT OLD REPUBLICAN CRY.

Long practice in shouting that Democracy means disaster has at length led some Republicans to really accept that statement as the truth. Fortunately America, however, only a minority of its voters are amenable to that type of logic, and with the election only thirty-one days off the weakness of this Republican campaign cry has been exposed. As Mr. Bryan's chance of election improve it is of interest to see what he could do that has in it so much assumed danger. In the first place, the operation of the civil service law will keep the great body of the skilled and trained government employees in office. Secretaries may come and go in England or America, but the real work of the great departments is carried on by the permanent officials. No more clean sweeps like those of Andrew Jackson are possible, even if Mr. Bryan intended or desired such methods, and there is not the slightest reason to suppose he does.

The Interstate Commerce Commission's members are appointed for terms of years, and are practically irremovable except for cause. The sole difference, therefore, between the Republican and Democratic administrations with regard to transportation matters would lie in the attitude of the President, and in that particular the people assuredly have everything to gain.

As to the campaign, brothers, general apathy appears to have given way to general sympathy.

While Randolph Hearst is apparently endeavoring to qualify as a man of letters, it is not surprising to find that Mr. Hearst is compared with Mr. Roosevelt, and that Mr. Roosevelt is often called "the great man" by Hearst.

Taft, that promises no

Rhymes for To-Day.

LOVE, 1908-9 MODEL.

HER face is surpassingly lovely,
 Her smile is surpassingly sweet.
 Her figure is fine beyond question—
 Some \$35,000,000 I hear.

Her manners are sweetly alluring—
 Ah, she's the one woman for me!
 And think! I'm to marry her shortly—
 As soon as she gets her decree.

The matter was planned out in heaven,
 The match was predestined by Fate,
 For am her spirit's true lover, and
 She is my soul's truly mate.

We loved, nor did struggle to help it,
 The artistic nature rides free—
 I'm to marry my darling as soon
 As she gets her decree.

'Twas only last night that it happened
 My husband was absent, the bride
 I kissed her six times while I mused—
 "You've guessed my heart's desire."

And then with a giggle she answered
 What made a proud prince out of me?
 "Yes, yes—I will marry you, Percy,
 As soon as you get your decree."

H. S. H.

MERELY JOKING.

Modern Improvements.

"I thought," said the American who was seeing Europe for the first time, "that you people had a lot of interesting old ruins."

"Once we had such things," the native apologized, "but your heathens have come and had most of them put in good repair."—Pittsburgh Observer.

Waiting More Information.

"You don't seem much concerned over the service of those divorce papers."

"Too soon yet," replied the actress, "I don't know what the result of the scheme of my husband or of the press agent."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Experience.

"He never parts with a cent."

"Well?"

"He'll never get any experience that way."

"He'll never need any. Experience merely consists of parting with money unwisely."—Kansas City Journal.

Like the Old Friends Best.

"If you don't ever write any new jokes?"

"Wouldn't be any use," answered the contributor to the humorous weeklies, "with the old jokes and the old jokes. They would recognize and throw them out at once."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Those Ties.

"I didn't know young Shoberly really took any interest in politics."

"But I just been him talking for the past ten minutes about 'party ties.'"

"He means white lawn bows,"—Catholic Standard and Times.

The Office and the Man.

"The office should seek the man," remarked the idealist.

"Perhaps," answered Senator Sorghum, "but an office doesn't get much encouragement from a crowd and a staff of body, in fact, it has to roost high to keep from being grabbed off the perch."—Washington Star.

Naturally.

"Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., has gone to work in a carpet factory."

"That so?"

"Yes, but I don't think it will last long." "Suppose when he gets his first carpet made he will think he ought to beat it?"—Houston Post.

AFTER THE TIMES-DISPATCH.

"ANYBODY else to notify?" asks the Richmond Times-Dispatch. Sure!

Mr. Bryan is to receive the notification that he is to go to the morning after election—Omaha News.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch is boasting of its Virginia sample. What was it?

A couple of months is a lot of Republican reference to Virginia's lemon crop.—The Commoner.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch wants to know where an empire goes in the winter.

The average empire goes when he dies, but that's not the question.—Columbus Enquirer-Sun.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch has found a genuine fireproof safe growing luxuriantly in the streets and wonders why no foreign flowers bloom and why no foreign invaders to death.—Austin Statesman.

Where does an empire go in the winter time, anyway?—Richmond Times-Dispatch.

We don't know, but we hope he goes to the morning after election to go when he is working.—Albany News.

There is a race on in Virginia as to what country has raised the largest sunflower.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch sets forth a mammoth sunflower head grown in Sussex county, which measures eleven and a half inches in diameter. This sunflower was placed on exhibition at the State fair. The Masses, however, were not so much interested in the sunflower. That paper says G. Raymond, a native of Prince William county, raised a sunflower which measured twelve inches in diameter.—Washington Herald.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

The loftiest mountain peak in the world is one and one-half miles high, and the greatest known depth of the ocean is six miles.

A meteorograph is being installed at Mount Rose, Nev., which automatically registers the weather conditions and transmits them by wire to Washington.

There were 13,329,513 males of voting age in the United States at the last census. Only 13,959,274 of them voted in the census year.

The carrot grows spontaneously throughout Europe, Asia Minor, Siberia, Northern China, Abyssinia, Northern Africa, Madeira and the Canary Islands.

Recently at Lacrosse, Wis., people were compelled to stay indoors on account of swarms of bugs, which were so thick that they could not see their way.

A. O. Calhoun, of Victor, is Missouri's honey king. He has 5,000 pounds of honey in sight from the summer flow, and as much more will be ready for shipment.

At Hammond, Ind., a man cut a hole through the wall of the room in which Leon Wilms was sleeping and, showing a dagger, he fatally stabbed Wilms in the face and ear.

For twenty years the crochets have been used in the United States, and they are now being used in China and Japan, is probably indigenous to Eastern Asia.

Arthur Burrows, the oldest practicing lawyer in the United States, died at the age of 86.

His connection with the law extends to nearly seventy-eight years, as he was admitted to the bar in 1830.

He died at his home in New York city, and his remains will be buried in the city of New York.

His wife, Mrs. Burrows, died at the age of 84, and his remains will be buried in the city of New York.

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